



It was only an inch of snow,
but it provided a pile of fun

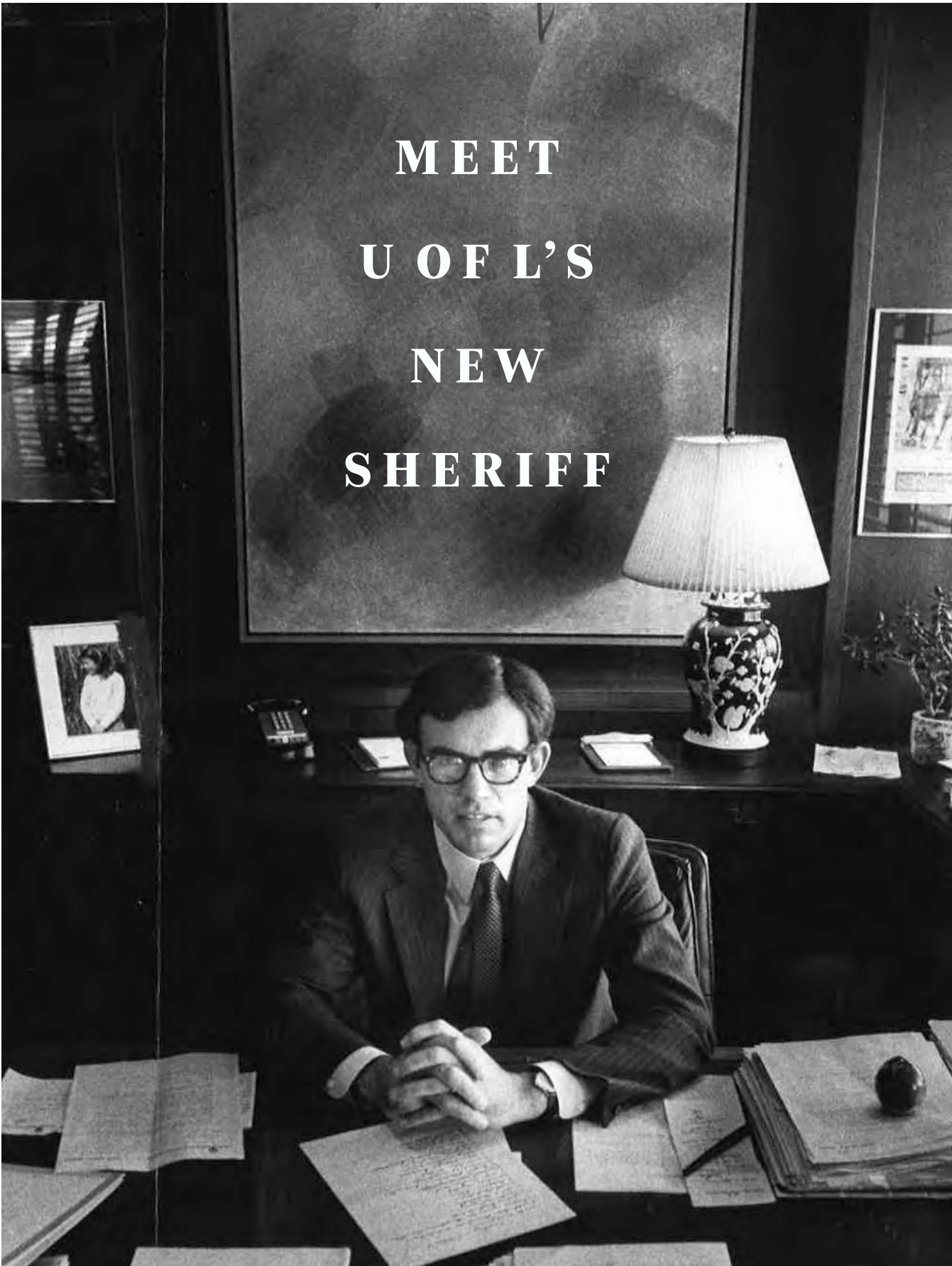
Metro, 3A

Courier Journal

Louisville, Kentucky

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J. David Grissom in an undated photograph in his office from his days at Citizens Fidelity bank. COURIER JOURNAL FILE

Is Grissom the SOB that U of L needs to clean house?

Andrew Wolfson Louisville Courier Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

A student editorial writer recently called him a “bully” who “doesn’t like to play by the rules.” Faculty say he spat in the face of “shared governance” by insisting on a secret search for the university’s next president, following in the footsteps of ousted President James Ramsey by “rejecting transparency, consultation, cooperation and collaboration.” Boosters say he ran off the best athletic director in America, condemning the university

More inside
Onetime college jock Grissom wants U of L to value academics as much as sports. **6A**

athletic program to years of mediocrity. But to his admirers, 79-year-old J. David Grissom, a corporate wunderkind who has made fortunes several times over in banking and business, is just what the doctor ordered to cure the ills of the scandal-plagued University of Louisville: Beholden to no one. Supremely self-confident. A strong-willed SOB. **See GRISSOM, Page 4A**

Q&A on Kentucky charter schools

There is still work to do before first opening

Mandy McLaren
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Nearly a year after Kentucky passed a controversial charter school law, no charter schools are set to open in the Bluegrass State anytime soon. That’s because lawmakers still have work to do. Before any charter schools can open their doors to students, legislators in Frankfort must finalize dozens of regulations related to the law’s implementation. They also need to agree on a way to permanently fund the schools. Lawmakers already face tough decisions this session, including millions in proposed budget cuts to K-12 education. Having charter schools back on the legislative agenda is likely to reignite a debate between charter school proponents and their critics. With those hurdles ahead, policy experts say it’s becoming increasingly unlikely that the state’s first charter schools will open in the fall. Here’s what parents should know in the meantime:

How did we get to this point?

Gov. Matt Bevin signed a law authorizing charter schools last March, adding Kentucky to the list of 44 states and Washington, D.C., to allow the publicly funded but independently managed schools. In June, Bevin created a charter school advisory council. Members of the nine-person council, which includes a parent representative, began providing feedback in the summer on proposed regulations. In the fall, the state board of education solicited comments from the public about the proposed regulations. The board sent the regulations to the

See CHARTER, Page 13A

Though out-of-state charter school operators have expressed interest in putting down roots in Kentucky, none have made a final commitment. That’s due in large part to the uncertainty regarding regulations and funding. Locally, some have begun soliciting community support for charter school proposals.

USA TODAY

After voracious fire, mudslide, residents of Montecito, California, are reeling, wondering at their fate, **1B**

Gerth: Drop forced religion

Secular subjects best taught in public schools, most religious courses better in church, he says **3A**

Weather

High 28° □ Low 21°
Sunny. Forecast, **2A**

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